

IFW

00862.023413.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: R. Dorvil
HIDEO KUBOYAMA, et al.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2654
Application No.: 10/763,335	)	
	:	
Filed: January 26, 2004	)	
	:	
For: INFORMATION SERVICE	)	
APPARATUS AND INFORMATION	:	
SERVICE METHOD	)	January 11, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the non-U.S. patent documents is enclosed.

- (1) GB 2 366 157
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,181,956
- (3) DE 43 40 679
- (4) WO 01/35392
- (5) EP 1 265 422
- (6) CN 1256778A
- (7) CN 1379868A
- (8) U.S. Patent No. 6,574,598
- (9) WO 01/29642A1

Documents (1) to (5) were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report dated June 13, 2005 is enclosed.

The documents (6) and (7) were cited during prosecution of a Chinese counterpart application. A copy of a Chinese Office Action dated July 29, 2005 is enclosed.

English language abstracts for each of the non-English language documents have been located and are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. In addition, it is believed that U.S. Patent 6,574,598 is an English language counterpart of CN 1256778A, and that WO 01/29642A1 is an English language counterpart for CN 1379868A. The concise explanation of relevance for each of the non-English documents is believed to be satisfied by the English abstracts, the enclosed search reports, and the English language counterparts. See MPEP § 609.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

JAN 12 2006

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
**00862.023413.**APPLICATION NO.  
**10/763,335**

APPLICANT

**HIDEO KUBOYAMA, et al.**

FILING DATE

**January 26, 2004**

GROUP

**2654**

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		<b>6,181,956</b>	<b>01/30/01</b>	<b>Koskan</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>566</b>	
		<b>6,574,598</b>	<b>06/03/03</b>	<b>Nakatsuyama</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>260</b>	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	<b>GB</b>	<b>2 366 157</b>	<b>02/27/02</b>	<b>Great Britain</b>			
	<b>DE</b>	<b>43 40 679</b>	<b>06/01/95</b>	<b>Germany</b>			<b>Abstract</b>
	<b>WO</b>	<b>01/35392</b>	<b>05/17/01</b>	<b>WIPO</b>			
	<b>EP</b>	<b>1 265 422</b>	<b>12/11/02</b>	<b>Europe</b>			
	<b>CN</b>	<b>1256778A</b>	<b>01/13/99</b>	<b>China</b>			
	<b>CN</b>	<b>1379868A</b>	<b>10/16/00</b>	<b>China</b>			
	<b>WO</b>	<b>01/29642</b>	<b>04/26/01</b>	<b>WIPO</b>			

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.